

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

December 8, 2021

After homicide defendant pleads guilty, jury convicts man in burglary case

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – After a man scheduled to go to trial for a 2017 murder pled guilty during jury selection, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Felony Crimes Team stepped in and set to work in an effort to utilize all available court time and secure justice for a woman and her children, who were victimized in a burglary. The trial session was held November 29-December 7, 2021, in courtroom 5370 before The Honorable Robert C. Ervin, Superior Court Judge.

Taiquan Rodgers, 27, was tried for 1) first-degree burglary, 2) larceny after breaking or entering and 3) sexual battery. The jury found him *guilty* as charged. Judge Ervin sentenced him to 97-129 months in prison. He was also sentenced to an additional 150 days in custody; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation, which is to be completed after he is released from prison. Rodgers must also register as a sex offender for 30 years.

In August 2019, Rodgers broke into a woman's Charlotte home while she and her children slept. Climbing in through a living room window, Rodgers went to the children's room and stole a gaming system. After taking the gaming system to his getaway car, he returned. The victim, who was sleeping next to her two young sons, awoke to Rodgers groping her. Then, Rodgers fled.

Darius Perry, 24, was scheduled for trial for charges connected with the 2017 murder of 22-year-old De'Monte Perkins. After jury selection began, Perry pled guilty to 1) second-degree murder and 2) attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon. He was sentenced to 221-278 months in prison. Charges against a codefendant in this case remain pending.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, follow @CharMeckDA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

// End //